

THE GUILD GAZETTE



(Volume 7, No. 1) September, 2013

President's Corner - September 2013

Welcome to Fall!! I hope you've all had relaxing and restful summers. My thanks to all who worked hard this summer in service to our organization in all kinds of ways, including organizing our programs for this coming year, putting together another excellent Yearbook, planning and designing our new Website, and planning for our 2014 SAT, to name a few. It truly takes a village to bring together all the vibrant programs we enjoy!

Since our May Luncheon, the Board has met twice. Please see the minutes of our June meeting (approved) and our recent September meeting (draft), attached. Also, beginning in October, be on the lookout for the Draft Agenda for upcoming the board meetings (this will be about a day before the meeting - the meeting dates are in the Yearbook). As you may know, our meetings are open to all members, and by providing agendas in advance, I'm hoping to keep you all more informed and also help you determine whether you'd like to attend a meeting. We welcome you!! Come see what it's all about!!

I'd like to highlight some items from our last meeting. First, our SAT Chair, Gail Davis Barnes, is already working hard for a great 2014 SAT. Please see her letter, in this issue of the Gazette. We DO need someone to volunteer to fill the role of "Tech Sub-Chair". Ideally this person will have and/or be able acquire some knowledge of Filemaker Pro and Excel. I hope to hear from you SOON if this a a position you could fill. Second, the Website Committee has been working hard, and could use input from members, including good, digital photos. Please see the update on the Website in this issue. Third, I am very pleased to report that we have selected Natalie Matovinovic as our 2013 Teacher of the Year. Natalie will be honored at the State MMTA Conference. Please see her biography in this issue. Stay tuned for plans for honoring Natalie locally! Finally, I encourage you to attend the State Conference this year, in Kalamazoo, October 13-15. Be sure to sign up by September 13 to get the lower rates.

I hope to see many of you at any or all of our great events in September! Come touch base with and learn from fellow teachers, as we enter another Fall of Teaching!

Betsy McCabe

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- 12 9:30 A.M. Performer's Group, home of Heidi Cowan**
- 19 9A.M. Formal Program Kerrytown Concert House
Giuseppe Lupis, Grand Valley State University**
- 26 9:30 A.M. Seminar, home of Beth Dixon Andras Shiff DVD**

September Seminar

September 26th, 9:30=11:30

Home of Beth Dixon

DVD's : Masterclasses with Andras Schiff and Students

Music played: Bach, Partita in c minor

Schubert, Moments Musicaux

A suggestion was made at the Board Meeting to have lunch at a nearby restaurant (if we start the Seminar on time) for those who would like to discuss the DVD's and socialize. This will be decided at the end of the Seminar on the 26th.

Website brief update:

The committee has tackled many issues during the summer and is now ready to add more content to our new website. Thanks to Lester, our "about us" rubric is now complete and many thanks to those of you who helped create other documents and send pictures. A few days ago, we were given access to our website and we should be able to enter content ourselves from now on at a faster pace. We will start with the information from the handbook. Then, in order to develop pages dedicated to students' and parents' resources we will call on your expertise.

Our blog needs your creativity, intellectual curiosity and -why not- your sense humor. Would you like to comment on a musical event, an article, or a recording? Would you like to share an anecdote, a story, or talk about someone who inspired you? Please do feel free to email or call any of us with your ideas or questions. We will be very glad to hear from you!

From the CDEF committee: Lester Castellana, Daniel Drummond, Béatrice Ellis, Jeannette Faber

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT TESTING

September 6, 2013

Dear AAAPTG Members:

Apology

I must apologize to Sheila Bloch for her name not appearing in the yearbook as SAT proofreader for all of the tests. She has served in this capacity at the state and local levels for many years. We appreciate your dedicated and diligent efforts Sheila!!

HELP NEEDED

As some of you may know Eric Van De Vort has resigned as co-chair of SAT. Thank you Eric for your hard work and time!!

We will miss Eric's technical expertise that is required for SATD. **A NEW PERSON NEEDS TO VOLUNTEER TO TAKE OVER HIS JOB.** Eric can train you and is happy to do so. But you need to act now so that there is time for training. Thank you in advance for your willingness to be a part of this exciting event that many of our teachers and students look forward to attending.

As you prepare for SAT weekend, please start keeping accurate records of student's repertoire so that when registration happens in December and repertoire is recorded in January, all information is CORRECT. Yi-Li Lin, who checks each teacher's registration form and has done so for years (Thank you Yi-Li!!), has spent too many hours cleaning up teacher errors, So all of us need to be very careful.

Lastly, I would like to encourage more teacher participation in SAT. If you are interested in learning about the program, please contact Gail Davis Barnes at 734-662-6419, or gdb540@earthlink.net and either I can help you or put you in touch with one of our outstanding participating teachers who would be delighted to answer your questions.

For more information about the new Tech position that is open, please contact:

Betsy Mc Cabe at 734-665-0957, or betsymccabe@comcast.net.

Have a highly successful teaching year.

Gail Davis Barnes

2013 Teacher of the Year

The Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild (the Guild) is pleased to honor Natalie Matovinovic as our 2013 Teacher of the Year. Through the years, Natalie has been an inspiration to us all because of her vast knowledge, her high standards, and her enthusiasm. Natalie served as President of MMTA in 1989-1990, and President of the AAAPTG in 1987-1989. She was named State Teacher of the Year in 1981. Natalie has served on the Board of the Guild and its sister organization, the AAAPTG Foundation, and has been an active participant in and supporter of programs in her local chapter. Natalie's teaching consistently has produced students of the highest caliber who have been winners of competitions at all levels. In the MTNA national finals she has had, among several entrants, one national winner.

Natalie was born in Zagreb, Croatia, and graduated from the Croatian State Academy of Music with an Academic Musician and Concert Artist Diploma, where her teacher was the internationally renowned piano pedagogue Svetislav Stancic (Stancic himself had been a student of Ferruccio Busoni and Hans Barth in Berlin). She was a tenured piano faculty member of the Croatian Academy of Music. She combined teaching with an active concert career, as recitalist and soloist with all the major orchestras in the former Yugoslavia.

Upon her U.S. arrival in 1956, Natalie lived in Boston with her husband and continued to perform in New England, both as a soloist (she performed with the Boston Civic Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Paul Cherassky), and as a collaborative artist. Since moving to Ann Arbor in 1959, she has been an active piano teacher, adjudicator, piano pedagogy lecturer, coach and teacher of master classes. She is a founding member of the Ann Arbor Bach Association and its offshoot, the Sonatina/Sonata Festival. She was on the faculty of the Interlochen Arts Camp from 1977-1995, with Concerto winners in 17 of the 19 years at camp.

Natalie has been active in MTNA on local, state and national levels. She twice adjudicated the national finals of the MTNA Performance Competitions. She served four years as East Central Division chair of the MTNA Junior High School Piano Performance Competitions, and she chaired the East Division Composition Competition for two years. In 2002 she was honored as an MTNA Foundation Fellow. She also joined the Foundation Legacy Society by establishing the Natalie Matovinovic Endowment Fund.

FROM SARA CARRIERE-PHONE CHAIR

Jennifer Duman is looking for a piano teacher who would come to her home in the Whitmore Lake area to teach herself and her two daughters. Her phone number is [\(734\) 449-8156](tel:7344498156).

Also I would like teachers to call me if they want students. Tell me if they are, for example, Suzuki teachers or if they specialize in 4-6 year olds or adults. I also want to know if anyone specializes in teaching special needs children.

Foundation News
website:aaaptgf.org

WHAT'S NEW!

- ♪ Judges have been retained for the March 15, 2014 Awards Auditions; They are Bibianne Yu and Sue Vanderbeck-Lenz, both from Livonia
- ♪ Regarding considerations listed for Auditions, The Foundation Board removed the option for students to request either **open** or **closed** auditions - all auditions will be **open**
- ♪ Received a great report about the **Mostly Music Camp** from Merilee Magnuson; look for her report below
- ♪ Coming up November 6, The **Halloween Hoot Benefit Recital**; see details, also below
- ♪ At their August 23rd meeting, the board updated our Awareness flyer – **Getting to Know the Foundation, Fall 2013**; Lynne Waggoner will have copies for you at the September formal meeting and it will be sent, via e-mail to all guild members.
- ♪ Our next meeting - 9:15 a.m., Friday, November 15 at Grace Bible Church

Mostly Music Camp Report

44 students enjoyed the activities at the camp in August. Of those, 8 came at the recommendation of guild members. Thanks to Rebecca Biber, Lisa Caron-Gatto, Jeannette Faber, Nancy Klein, Dan Latterner, Betsy McCabe, Hsiu-Hui Peng Chen and Mimi Phan-Ding for that support.

Our teachers, Nancy Klein, Elizabeth Albright, Rebecca Biber and Rob Papineau brought great activities for the students who in turn commented, on the evaluation forms, that they enjoyed the camp, many saying that they would return. About 10 days before the first camp day, it was determined that we needed a teacher to fill in for Sara Carriere. Elizabeth, Rebecca and Rob stepped up to the plate and shared teaching her class. Nancy was also on deck by being available to discuss how best to handle this change. Merilee and Mary Sue really appreciated their help to assure the camp was a success.

Worthy of Note: Grace Bible Church was again a great site - Meijer donated \$100.00 - Two scholarships were awarded - and \$1,815.37 was earned for the Foundation!

Halloween Hoot Benefit Recital

NOT TO BE MISSED! Calling all students who enjoy playing jazz, show tunes, popular and/or Halloween music. Memorization is not required and both solo and ensemble groups are welcome. Students and guests are invited to wear costumes! We have treats!! This spooktacular opportunity is **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 3, 2013** at KCH. For registration info and forms, see our website, aaaptgf.org or call or e-mail Judy Hanway at 734-665-5571 or judithhanway@sbcglobal.net. Proceeds benefit the AAAPTG Foundation.

Foundation News (continued)

THE COMPLETE LIST OF AWARDS AND ASSISTANCE OFFERED by the FOUNDATION

Mostly Music Camp Scholarships available at camp time
Financial Awards for musical excellence to Guild members' students
Teacher Enrichment Grants for private study, college level course work and more
Discretionary Assistance to students in financial need
General Support Grant to organizations & individuals for various musical projects/events that serve the musical community & promote music education (detail below)
Support for local arts organizations
More information available on our website or contact Mary Sue msjoe56@aol.com

GENERAL SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM

The Foundation's newest category of assistance

- ♪ Funding: the Foundation will consider a request of up to \$500.00
- ♪ Purpose: to provide financial assistance to organizations and individuals for various musical projects or events that serve the musical community and promote music education
- ♪ Examples might include but are not limited: to screening of a film, help with securing instruments for a performance, educational workshops and concert production
- ♪ Information & Form: available on website

Omission from Yearbook:

Bing-Hua Tsou Wu
3085 Walnut Ridge Dr. 662-0036
Ann Arbor MI 48103

Returning members:

Helen Xie Geary
1908 Snowberry Ridge Rd. 972-7818
Ann Arbor 48103
helenxie98@yahoo.com

Virginia Sory Brown
3730 Burns Ct.
Ann Arbor 48105 383-3257
senzavib@aol.com

Logan Skelton
UM School of Mus., Theatre, Dance
Ann Arbor 48109-2085 277-2241
lskelton@umich.edu.

Corrections:

Correction of address for Linda Crooker:
1436 Green Road
Ann Arbor 48105

Shin-Ae Chun – new phone number: 734-546-6723.

New phone number for Carol Flower: 605-332-3155

Correction of email address:

MimPhandinh - Mimi.t.phandinh@gmail.com

New Members:

Cassandra Stevens
1813 Independence Blvd. #25
Ann Arbor MI 48104
(734) 474-3337
cstevenspiano@gmail.com

Gaye Thomas N
6 Haverhill Ct.
Ann Arbor MI 48105 (503) 476-4495
mjlow@aol.com

AAAPTG Board Meeting – June 6, 2013 -- Home of Betsy McCabe

Present: Sarah Albright, Irina Babina, Mary Bates, Sara Carriere, Heidi Cowan, Linda Crooker, Gail Davis-Barnes, Daniel Drummond, Beatrice Ellis, Sue Kister, Nancy Klein, Betsy McCabe and Mary Sue Moore, Renee Robbins. Lynne, Waggoner.

Secretary's Report: Sara Carriere stood in for secretary at this board meeting. She read the minutes and they were approved after being amended. Under yearbook the first sentence should read: "Printer for next year has been determined, but will not be First Impression Printers." Under performers group it now reads, "Debussy concert was a success. Teacher of the Year has been corrected to read, "There was discussion for nominating a teacher of the year." And lastly, Friends of AAAPTG was corrected to read, "Fees are to be set by the board and should be reviewed in the future."

Treasurer Report: This month there was \$1140.00 in dues. Conclusion is that we have \$5668.88 in our checking account, keeping in mind that \$2,500.00 is our cushion. There is approximately \$2,000.00 of unallocated funds.

President: Passed a clipboard for members to host board meetings next year. She also reported that the AAAPTG received a \$200.00 grant from MMTA.

Vice President: Reported that the dates for formal meetings have been confirmed with KCH. Presenters for next year include Katherine Collier speaking on Sight Reading, G. Lupis from Grand Valley speaking on the lesser known Baroque composers, Gail Davis-Barnes speaking on SATD changes, Amy Chang coaching young chamber music groups, Rosencranz speaking on teaching styles and influences internationally and Smita Nagpal speaking on mindfulness. Topic details are still being developed.

Yearbook/Advertising: Mary Bates announced that Print Tech will print 2013-14 yearbook. She has sent out 12 requests for ads. Daniel, Nancy, Beatrice and Betsy will help proofread the yearbook before it goes to print. She also asked for someone to help import the data into the proper format. Beatrice has contacted 6 advertisers and they all were interested in advertising on our website. Ann Arbor Symphony offered to put us on their website under "Community." Ads on our website would pay a flat fee of \$60.00. Yearbook and website committees are continuing to coordinate advertising. A decision was made to leave everything in the yearbook that is currently in it. Mary reminded everyone that the deadline for dates is June 30. A motion was made by Mary Bates and seconded by Sue Kister to put an ad in the Ann Arbor Observer for the month of September and then revisit this decision in September. The motion passed unopposed.

2013-14 Calendar: Dates for the calendar were discussed. Renee Robbins made a motion to have the May luncheon on the 22nd at Westminster. Beatrice seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

Seminars: Dates and topics were discussed. Beatrice suggested Aya Higuchi could speak about website use for teaching purposes. A motion was made by Mary and seconded by Nancy to authorize the vice president to seek payment for seminar speakers from her formal budget and/or request grants from outside sources. The motion passed with none opposed. Sue Kister reported that Sara Carriere, Beatrice Ellis, Beth Dixon and Heidi Cowan will host meetings. More hosts are needed.

Website: Daniel Drummond reported the committee had a meeting with BoxCar. They signed the contract and made the first payment. The next step is to pick a Wordpress theme. The second payment will come due during the summer. The goal is to launch the website in September. Daniel will get the website address to Sara Carriere and Lynne Waggoner.

Technology: Mary made a motion to give Heidi up to \$150.00 to make the necessary upgrades to our Guild computer. Nancy seconded the motion and it passed unopposed.

Foundation: Rebecca Biber, Judy Hanway, Genie Ryan and Lynne Waggoner were reelected for a two year term. Resignations from Hsiu Hui and Julie Li were accepted. There are now 32 campers signed up for the Mostly Music Camp which is more than signed up last year at this time.

SAT: Gail reported the SATD dates for next year. Since Eric has resigned there will be a slightly different format. Not the 2 co-chair system as in the past but many sub-chairs. Eric hopes to transition the computer work to people by the end of the summer. There will be a meeting to discuss back up plans.

President McCabe discussed the three possible nominees for Teacher of the Year. Since 2 of the teachers were present and she wanted action on this topic soon it was decided to send out an email and request board members vote on the three contenders.

Board retreat topic will be dropped from the agenda.

Monster Concert update was given by Daniel. There are no available dates at the Power Center for Spring 2014 so the committee is going to look into their Fall 2014 schedule.

AAPTG Board Meeting – Sept. 4, 2013 -- Home of Jeanette Faber (DRAFT)

Meeting came to order at 9:35.

Present: S. Albright, Gail Barnes-Davis, M. Bates, L. Castellana, H. Cowan, L. Crooker, B. Ellis, J. Faber, N. Klein, S. Kister, B. McCabe, M.S. Moore, R. Robbins.

Secretary's Report: June minutes approved. These did not make it into the *Gazette*, so this month's issue will contain both the approved June minutes and the present, unapproved minutes for September. Secretary read letter from EMU thanking the AAAPTG for its donation to the EMU Foundation Music Fund.

Treasurer's Report: Two printed reports (filed with these minutes): 1) a summer Balance Sheet dated 8/31/13 showing a Checking balance of \$7,782.00 and a Savings balance of \$5,001.00; and 2) an Operating Budget for the 2013-2014 year. Received income is currently below projected income, with the notable exception of Yearbook advertising which took in almost \$600.00 more than estimated. Upgrades for the Guild computer cost about \$70.00 more than the approved \$150.00 amount, prompting a discussion of procedure for immediate expenditures. Treasurer will craft official language (to be approved at the next board meeting) regarding what situations and monetary values may permit a committee and/or board member to make additional, small expenditures on behalf of the Guild without specific, prior approval by the Board.

President: Will post each month's board agenda as an invitation: all members are welcome to attend board meetings. Thank you to Yearbook committee for hard work. Natalie Matovinovic will be honored as Guild Teacher of the Year. EMU will be enforcing policy to have an EMU faculty member or a graduate student present throughout our entire, on-site SAT schedule. This includes testing days plus set-up and break-down times. Though this may incur additional cost, it is hoped that EMU faculty who are already Guild members can be persuaded to help. A "Tech-Lead" is urgently required for SAT (i.e. someone to handle all our computer/technological support). Reminder: the State Conference is Oct. 13-15 at Kalamazoo. And finally, MMTA's President enquired as to the possibility of inviting non-piano teachers into our Guild. We are one of only few local chapters state-wide that are "piano only" and the shift is seen as potentially improving state-wide membership as well as fostering increased opportunities for collaboration. Conversely, our Guild is large and long-standing, having enough on its plate providing for pianists. An alternative possibility might be to encourage a sister Ann Arbor chapter open to non-pianists.

V.P. Report: Timing of March formal meeting, “incorporating chamber music in our studios,” may preclude participation of our slated clinician, Amy I-Lin Cheng. In such an event, the plan is to keep the topic and find another person(s) to lead the discussion.

Standing Committee Reports:

Yearbook: As all content from our annual yearbook will be made available online, M. Bates proposes that our future printed yearbooks contain only our member Directory plus calendar. She also suggests that we continue to use Print Tech. Our advertisers will now be paying for online advertisements only, so a printed yearbook will have to be paid for as an unfunded expense. M. Bates will not be available [AAAPTG Board Meeting – Sept. 4, 2013 (page 2)]

to help prepare the yearbook next summer.

Membership: A **motion** (R. Robbins) to accept Cassandra Stevens for full membership into the Guild once her state certification has been confirmed **passed** unanimously.

Seminars: First seminar will be DVD recording of an Andras Schiff masterclass , Sept. 26 (9:30-11:30) at the home of B. Dixon. It will start on time and it is hoped that folks will stay after the video for some discussion.

Foundation: M. S. Moore prepared a printed report, filed with these minutes. This summer’s Mostly Music Camp had 44 students. Judges are set for this year’s Awards Audition. The Foundation received its first general support grant request (under consideration). The Foundation is looking for a non-Guild member (perhaps a parent or adult student) to fill a spot on the Foundation board. Next meeting, Nov. 15.

Publicity: As we have done in the past, an advertisement to attract students was placed on the AnnArbor.com Bulletin Board. A discussion whether to continue advertising in the Observer was tabled for another meeting.

SATD: Further discussion (see President’s report) of the need for a sub-chair to manage technology and EMU’s facility policy requiring faculty or graduate student presence. SATD chair would love to more worker involvement from newer or younger Guild members as the same cadre of members continues to do much of the work.

Website Development: Website is progressing well, though behind schedule. Committee can confidently project its premier by the end of October, perhaps up to a month earlier than that. Thanks to L. Castellana for preparing written content, but more is left to be done. The committee is soliciting for good digital photos from our studios, artwork, or other images that might help create visually attractive webpages. As the site aims to be a valuable resource to our members, students and parents, the committee also requests material or ideas that might help fulfill this goal (practice tips, theory resources, well-written info on choosing a piano, tuner or teacher, video demonstrations, etc...). The committee will soon be making final decisions on matters of functionality. Online SAT Registration, online Guild membership application, Find-a-Teacher search, a searchable concert and events calendar, plus a password protected, members’ only section are all desirable features in the long run, but perhaps only some of this is feasible this year due to our budget and the terms of our current contract with Boxcar.

Meeting adjourned 11:20 am.

L.A.C.